

**RECEIVED**

MAR 28 2016

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-16-06
March 29, 2016****LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE****PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE**

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov

APPLICANT: City of Big Timber

FACILITY NAME: Big Timber Wastewater Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 1600 E. 3rd Ave, Big Timber MT 59011

COUNTY: Sweet Grass

RECEIVING WATER: Boulder River

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0020753

This is a major modification of the MPDES permit for the City of Big Timber Wastewater Treatment Facility. The modification is initiated by the Department of Environmental Quality to incorporate changes to the wasteload allocations (WLA) adopted and approved in the September 11, 2009 *Boulder River Watershed Total Maximum Daily Loads* (TMDL). The TMDL assigned WLA to the City of Boulder Wastewater Treatment Facility for total recoverable copper, lead, and iron. The changes made to the TMDL are necessary to reflect new information regarding the concentrations of copper, lead, and iron in the Boulder River, as well as the City of Big Timber's minimal contribution to the Boulder River impairment due to these pollutants. The modified permit requires the City of Big Timber to assess the sources of copper, lead, and iron to the wastewater treatment facility and to begin to develop a plan that results in attainment of the TMDL WLA by 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited **ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS April 27, 2016.** Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked **PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS April 27, 2016** will be considered in the formulation of final determinations

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to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail the Department at DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov.

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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